

WHERE TO WRITE FOR VITAL RECORDS (UPDATED 09-28-10)

National Center for Health Statistics

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Introduction

As part of its mission to provide access to data and information relating to the health of the Nation, the National Center for Health Statistics produces a number of publications containing reference and statistical materials. The purpose of this publication is solely to provide information about individual vital records maintained only on file in State or local vital statistics offices.

An official certificate of every birth, death, marriage, and divorce should be on file in the locality where the event occurred. The Federal Government does not maintain files or indexes of these records. These records are filed permanently either in a State vital statistics office or in a city, county, or other local office.

To obtain a certified copy of any of the certificates, write or go to the vital statistics office in the State or area where the event occurred. Addresses and fees are given for each event in the State or area concerned.

To ensure that you receive an accurate record for your request and that your request is filled expeditiously, please follow the steps outlined below for the information in which you are interested:

- Write to the appropriate office to have your request filled.
- Under the appropriate office, information has been included for birth and death records concerning whether the State will accept checks or money orders and to whom they should be made payable. This same information would apply when marriage and divorce records are available from the State office. However, it is impossible for us to list fees and addresses for all county offices where marriage and divorce records may be obtained.
- For all certified copies requested, make check or money order payable for the correct amount for the number of copies you want to obtain. Cash is not recommended because the office cannot refund cash lost in transit.
- Because all fees are subject to change, a telephone number has been included in the information for each State for use in verifying the current fee.
- States have provided their home page address for obtaining current information.
- Type or print all names and addresses in the letter.
- Give the following facts when writing for birth or death records:
 1. Full name of person whose record is being requested.
 2. Sex.
 3. Parents' names, including maiden name of mother.
 4. Month, day, and year of birth or death.

5. Place of birth or death (city or town, county, and State; and name of hospital, if known).
 6. Purpose for which copy is needed.
 7. Relationship to person whose record is being requested.
- Give the following facts when writing for marriage records:
 1. Full names of bride and groom.
 2. Month, day, and year of marriage.
 3. Place of marriage (city or town, county, and State).
 4. Purpose for which copy is needed.
 5. Relationship to persons whose record is being requested.
 - Give the following facts when writing for divorce records:
 1. Full names of husband and wife.
 2. Date of divorce or annulment.
 3. Place of divorce or annulment.
 4. Type of final decree.
 5. Purpose for which copy is needed.
 6. Relationship to persons whose record is being requested.

Alabama

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$15.00	Alabama Center for Health Statistics Alabama Department of Public Health P.O. Box 5625 Montgomery, AL 36103-5625	State office has records since January 1908. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$6.00 each. Personal check or money order should be made payable to Center for Health Statistics . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (334) 206-5418. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://adph.org/vitalrecords .
Marriage	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	State office has records since August 1936. Additional copies ordered at the same time are \$6.00 each.
	Varies	See remarks	For marriages prior to August 1936, contact Probate Court in county where license was issued.
Divorce	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	State office has records since January 1950. Additional copies ordered at the same time are \$6.00 each.
	Varies	See remarks	For divorces prior to 1950, contact Clerk of Circuit Court in county where divorce was granted.

Alaska

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$25.00	Bureau of Vital Statistics Department of Health and Social Services 5441 Commercial Boulevard Juneau, AK 99801	<p>State office has records since the 1890's; however, many events before 1930 were never registered with the Bureau. Personal check or money order should be made payable to Bureau of Vital Statistics. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$20.00.</p> <p>To verify current fees, the telephone number is (907) 465-3391. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/bvs/.</p> <p>ALL REQUESTS MUST INCLUDE A COPY OF A PICTURE ID OF THE APPLICANT. Enlarge the copy and lighten it as much as possible to be sure that it is clear and readable when sent to the Bureau. Signature under the copied ID is also required.</p>
Heirloom Birth	\$50.00	Same as Birth or Death	<p>Two different heirloom birth certificates by Alaskan artists are available. Friends and relatives may order gift certificates for persons entitled to order the record. The heirloom certificates as well as instructions and order forms may be viewed via the Internet at http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/bvs/. Additional copies of the same certificate ordered at the same time are \$45.00.</p>
Marriage	\$25.00	Same as Birth or Death	<p>State office has records since the 1890's; however, many events before 1930 were never registered with the Bureau. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$20.00.</p>
Heirloom Marriage	\$60.00	Same as Birth or Death	<p>Three different heirloom marriage certificates are available. Friends and relatives may order gift certificates for persons entitled to order the record. The heirloom certificates as well as instructions and order forms may be viewed via the Internet at http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/bvs/. Additional copies of the same certificate ordered at the same time are \$55.00</p>
Divorce	\$25.00	Same as Birth or Death	<p>State office has records since 1950. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$20.00.</p>
	Varies	See remarks	<p>Clerk of Superior Court in judicial district where divorce was granted.</p>

American Samoa

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$5.00	American Samoa Government	Registrar has records since 1900. Money order should be made payable to ASG Treasurer . Personal checks are not accepted. To verify current fees, the telephone numbers are: Office of Vital Records (684) 633-1406; Health Information Office, Health and Vital Statistics (684) 633-4606/2262.
Amendments	\$7.00	Governor's Office Registrar of Vital Records Office Pago Pago, AS 96799	
			Personal identification required before record will be sent.
Marriage	\$5.00	Same as Birth or Death	
Marriage License	\$10.00		
Divorce	\$5.00	High Court of American Samoa American Samoa Government Pago Pago, AS 96799	

Arizona

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth Death	Varies Varies	Office of Vital Records Arizona Department of Health Services P.O. Box 3887 Phoenix, AZ 85030-3887	<p>State office has records since July 1909 and abstracts of records filed in counties before then.</p> <p>Some county offices in Arizona are able to provide certified copies of birth and death certificates. Please go to http://www.azdhs.gov for a listing of county offices.</p> <p>The State Office of Vital Records does not accept personal checks. A money order or cashiers check should be made payable to Office of Vital Records. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (602) 364-1300. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.azdhs.gov.</p> <p>Applicants must submit a copy of picture identification or have their request notarized.</p>
Marriage	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Superior Court in county where license was issued.
Divorce	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Superior Court in county where divorce was granted.

Arkansas

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$12.00	Vital Records H-44	State office has records since February 1914 and some original Little Rock and Fort Smith records from 1881. Additional copies of the same birth record requested at the same time are \$10.00 each. Additional copies of the same death record requested at the same time are \$8.00 each.
Death	\$10.00	4815 West Markham Little Rock, AR 72205	
			Personal check or money order should be made payable to Arkansas Department of Health . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (501) 661-2336. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.healthyarkansas.com .
Marriage	\$10.00	Same as Birth or Death	Coupons since 1917. Additional copies of the same marriage record, when requested at the same time, are \$10.00 each.
Marriage (County)	Varies	Same as Birth or Death	A full certified copy may be obtained from County Clerk in county where license was issued. A certified copy of a marriage coupon may be obtained from the state. It is an extract (short version) and it is a "legal" certificate.
Divorce	\$10.00	Same as Birth or Death	Coupons since 1923. Additional copies of the same marriage record, when requested at the same time, are \$10.00 each.
	Varies	See remarks	Full certified copy may be obtained from Circuit or Chancery Clerk in county where divorce was granted.

California

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$14.00	Office of Vital Records	<p>The State office has records since July 1905. For earlier records, contact the County Recorder in the county where the event occurred.</p> <p>A personal check or money order should be made payable to Office of Vital Records. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (916) 445-2684. This will be a recorded message.</p> <p>Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the California Department of Public Health website at: http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/birthdeathmar/Pages/default.aspx.</p> <p>BIRTH AND DEATH RECORDS: In order to obtain a Certified Copy, you MUST complete the sworn statement included with the certificate application form, sign the statement under penalty of perjury, and your sworn statement must be notarized. If your request indicates that you want a Certified Copy but does not include a notarized statement sworn under penalty of perjury, the request will be rejected as incomplete and returned to you without being processed.</p>
Death	\$12.00	CA Department of Public Health	
Fetal Death	\$ 9.00	MS: 5103 P.O. Box 997410 Sacramento, CA 95899-7410	
Marriage (State)	\$14.00	Same as Birth or Death	<p>State office only has indexes for public marriage certificates that occurred from 1949-1986 and 1998-1999. For all other years, contact the County Recorder in the county where the event occurred; for confidential marriages, contact the County Clerk where the marriage license was issued.</p> <p>Information on how to obtain a marriage certificate, as well as information about current processing times, is available via the California Department of Public Health website at: http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/birthdeathmar/Pages/CertifiedCopiesofMarriageandDivorceRecords.aspx.</p> <p>In order to obtain a Certified Copy, you MUST complete the sworn statement included with the marriage certificate application form, sign the statement under penalty of perjury, and your sworn statement must be notarized. If your request indicates that want a Certified Copy but does not include a notarized statement sworn under penalty of perjury, the request will be rejected as incomplete and returned to you without being processed.</p>

Marriage (County)	Varies	See remarks	Contact the County Recorder (for public marriages) or County Clerk (for confidential marriages) in the county where the license was issued. Contact information is available via the California Department of Public Health website at: http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/birthdeathmar/Pages/CountyRecorderOffice.aspx .
Divorce (State) Certificates of Record only	\$13.00	Same as Birth or Death	A Certificate of Record includes only the names of the parties to the divorce, the county where the divorce was filed, and the court case number – It is not a certified copy of the divorce decree and does not indicate whether the divorce was finalized in court. The Office of Vital Records only as information for divorces that were filed with the court between 1962 and June 1984, and the processing times may exceed six months. For all other years or for a copy of the decree, contact the Superior Court in the county where the event occurred. Information on how to obtain a divorce record, as well as current processing times, is available via the California Department of Public Health website: http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/birthdeathmar/Pages/CertifiedCopiesofMarriageandDivorcerecords.aspx .
Divorce (County) Decrees	Varies	See remarks	Contact the Clerk of Superior Court in county where the divorce was granted. Contact information is available via the Department of Public Health website at: http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/birthdeathmar/Pages/CertifiedCopiesofMarriageandDivorceRecords.aspx .

Canal Zone

(Effective
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Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$30.00	Vital Records Section Passport Services U.S. Department of State 1111 19th Street NW Suite 510 Washington, DC 20522-1705	<p>Records available from May 1904 to September 1979. Additional copies of the same record requested at the same time are \$20.00 each.</p> <p>Personal check or money order must be signed, dated and made payable to U.S. Department of State. Remittance must be payable in U.S. dollars through a U.S. Bank. No credit cards or cash accepted. Telephone or facsimile requests are not accepted. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (202) 955-0307.</p> <p>A signed and notarized written request must be submitted along with a copy of the requester's valid photo identification.</p>
Marriage	\$30.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records available from May 1904 to September 1979.

Colorado

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$17.75	Vital Records Section CO Department of Public Health and Environment 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South HSVRD-VS-A1 Denver, CO 80246-1530	State office has birth records since 1910 and death records since 1900. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$10.00 each.
Death	\$17.00		<p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Vital Records Section. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (303) 692-2200. This will be a recorded message.</p> <p>Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/certs/index.html.</p> <p>A request for a birth or death record must be accompanied by a photo copy of the requestor's identification before processing.</p>
Marriage	See remarks	Same as Birth or Death	Certified copies are not available from State Health Department. Fee for verification is \$17.00.
	Varies	See remarks	Copies available from County Clerk in county where license was issued.
Divorce	See remarks	Same as Birth or Death	Certified copies are not available from State Health Department. Fee for verification is \$17.00.
	Varies	See remarks	Copies available from Clerk of District Court in county where divorce was granted.

Connecticut

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
<u>State issued:</u> Birth	\$30.00	Dept. of Public Health 410 Capitol Ave, MS #11 VRS Hartford, CT 06134	Request for certified copies of birth should be submitted to the vital records office in the city/town where the person was born, or where the mother lived at the time of the birth. Requests for certified copies may also be submitted to the State Vital Records Office.
Death	\$20.00	Same as Birth	
Marriage	\$20.00	Same as Birth	
Civil Union	\$20.00	Same as Birth	A copy of a valid, government issued photographic identification such as a drivers license, must be submitted with any request for a birth certificate. If a photo ID is not available, photocopies of two alternative forms of identification may be accepted.
<u>City/Town issued:</u> Birth	\$20.00	See remarks	
Death	\$20.00	See remarks	
Marriage	\$20.00	See remarks	For additional details about ordering vital records from CT, please refer to the CT Department of Public Health (DPH) website at http://www.ct.gov/dph "Vital Records" or contact a Customer Service Representative at (860) 509-7897 between 12:00 and 4:00 pm EST.
Civil Union	\$20.00	See remarks	Payment for requests sent to the town of the vital event must be in the form of a check or money order made payable to the respective town or city. Requests sent to the State Vital Records Office require a postal money order made payable to the Treasurer, State of Connecticut .
			Refer to the CT DPH website above for town contact information via a link to a listing of the CT Town Clerk and Registrar Directory.
			Requests for certified copies of a marriage or civil union certificate may be submitted to the city/town where the marriage or civil union ceremony took place, to the town in which either of the parties resided at the time of the marriage or civil union, or to the State Vital Records Office.
Dissolution of Marriage or Civil Union		See remarks	Applicant must contact the Clerk of Superior Court where the dissolution of marriage/civil union was granted. The State Office of Vital Records does not have dissolution decrees and cannot issue certified copies.

Delaware

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$25.00	Office of Vital Statistics Division of Public Health	State office has birth records since 1938. For previous years, write to Archives Hall of Records, Dover, DE 19901. A photo identification is REQUIRED for all transactions. If submitting by mail, a copy of ID IS REQUIRED . Personal check or money order should be made payable to Office of Vital Statistics . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (302) 744-4549. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/ss/vitalstats.html .
Death	\$25.00	417 Federal Street Dover, DE 19901	
Marriage	\$25.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since 1969.
Divorce	\$25.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since 1935. Inquiries will be forwarded to appropriate office. Certified copies are not available from the Office of Vital Statistics.
		See remarks	Prothonotary in county where divorce was granted up to 1975. For divorces granted after 1975, the parties concerned should contact Family Court in county where divorce was granted. Certified copies are not available from the State office.

District of Columbia

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth Death	\$23.00 \$18.00	Vital Records Division 825 North Capitol Street NE 1st Floor Washington, DC 20002	Office has birth and death records since August 1874. Personal check or money order should be made payable to DC Treasurer . A copy of a government issued picture identification must accompany each request. To verify current fees and obtain general information, the telephone number (202) 671-5000. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.dchealth.dc.gov .
Marriage	\$10.00	DC Superior Court 500 Indiana Avenue, NW Room 4485 Washington, DC 20001	Marriage information telephone number: 202-879-4840.
Divorce	\$6.50	DC Superior Court 500 Indiana Avenue, NW Room 4335 Washington, DC 20001	Records since September 16, 1956. Divorce information telephone number: 202-879-1261.
Divorce	Varies	Clerk, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia Washington, DC 20001	Records before September 16, 1956.

Florida

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth Death	\$9.00 \$5.00	Department of Health Bureau of Vital Statistics P.O. Box 210 1217 Pearl Street (Zip 32202) Jacksonville, FL 32231-0042	<p>State office has some birth records dating back to April 1865. The majority of records date from January 1917. (If the exact date is unknown, the fee is \$9.00 (births) or \$5.00 (deaths) for the first year searched and \$2.00 for each additional year up to a maximum of \$50.00. Fee includes one certification of record if found or statement stating record not on file.) Additional copies are \$4.00 each when requested at the same time.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Bureau of Vital Statistics. To verify current fees, please visit our website at http://www.doh.state.fl.us/planning_eval/vital_statistics/birth_death.htm or call our telephone number (904) 359-6900. This will be a recorded message.</p> <p>All letters or applications for birth or death records must include the signature and relationship/eligibility stated, and a copy of a valid PICTURE ID (Driver's License, Passport, Military ID, or State Identification card) of the applicant.</p> <p>Birth records and cause-of-death information in Florida are confidential by law. Please visit our website for information on eligibility.</p>
Marriage	\$5.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since June 6, 1927. (If the exact date is unknown, the fee is \$5.00 for the first year searched and \$2.00 for each additional year up to a maximum of \$50.00. Fee includes one copy of record if found or certified statement stating record not on file.) Additional copies are \$4.00 each when requested at the same time.
Divorce	\$5.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since June 6, 1927. If the exact date is unknown, the fee is \$5.00 for the first year searched and \$2.00 for each additional year up to a maximum of \$50.00. Fee includes one copy of record if found or certified statement stating record not on file.) Additional copies are \$4.00 each when requested at the same time.

Georgia

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$25.00	Vital Records Department of Community Health 2600 Skyland Drive, NE Atlanta, GA 30319-3640	<p>State office has records since January 1919. For earlier records in Atlanta or Savannah or other cities or counties, write to the Vital Records Office in county where event occurred. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$5.00.</p> <p>Certified check or money order should be made payable to Vital Records. Personal checks are not accepted. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.state.ga.us/programs/vitalrecords.</p> <p>The requestor must provide a photocopy of a valid photo ID.</p>
Marriage	\$10.00	Same as Birth or Death	<p>Centralized State records since June 9, 1952. Certified copies of marriage documents up to 1996 are issued at State office. Inquiries about marriages occurring before June 9, 1952, will be forwarded to appropriate Probate Judge in county where license was issued.</p> <p>The state office does not record marriage licenses or applications after July 1, 1997.</p>
Marriage (County)	Varies	See remarks	<p>Probate Judge in county where license was issued.</p> <p>See "County Directories" at http://www.sos.state.ga.us/cgi-bin/OfficialDirectoryIndex.asp for information about how to contact probate courts.</p>
Divorce (State)	\$2.00 for certification plus \$0.50 per page	See remarks	<p>Centralized State records since June 9, 1952. Certified copies are not issued at State office. Inquiries will be forwarded to appropriate Clerk of Superior Court in county where divorce was granted.</p> <p>See "County Directories" at http://www.sos.state.ga.us/cgi-bin/OfficialDirectoryIndex.asp for information about how to contact clerks of superior court.</p> <p>Clerk of Superior Court in county where divorce was granted.</p>

Guam

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$5.00	Office of Vital Statistics P.O. Box 2816 Hagatna, Guam 96932	Office has records since October 16, 1901. Money order should be made payable to Treasurer of Guam . Personal checks are not accepted. To verify current fees, the telephone number is 671-735-7292.
Marriage	\$5.00	Same as Birth or Death	
Divorce	Varies	Clerk, Superior Court of Guam Guam Judicial Center 120 West O'Brian Drive Hagatna, Guam 96910	

Hawaii

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$10.00	State Department of Health Office of Health Status Monitoring Insurance/Vital Statistics Section P.O. Box 3378 Honolulu, HI 96801	State office has some records as early as 1853. Additional copies ordered at the same time are \$4.00 each. Cashiers check, certified check, or money order should be made payable to State Department of Health . Personal checks are not accepted. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (808) 586-4533. This is a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://hawaii.gov/health/vital-records/vital-records .
Marriage	\$10.00	Same as Birth or Death	
Divorce	\$10.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since July 1951-December 2002. From January 2003, divorce records are available only through the county circuit court.
	Varies	See remarks	Circuit Court in county where divorce was granted.

Idaho

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$13.00	Vital Records Unit	The state office has records since July 1911. Also, some birth records before 1911. For records from 1907 to 1911, write to the County Recorder in the county where the event occurred. Birth records at the state office are legally confidential for 100 years and death records are legally confidential for 50 years.
Death	\$14.00	Bureau of Vital Records and	
	Computer generated	Health Statistics	
		P.O. Box 83720	
		Boise, ID 83720-0036	
Birth	\$18.00		
Death	\$19.00		
	Photostatic copy		
			<p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Idaho Vital Records. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (208) 334-5988. This is a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov.</p> <p>Applicants must provide a clear and readable copy of both sides of their current driver's license or other current government issued identification with signature. If this is not available, the applicant must either provide a clear and readable copy of both sides of two other forms of current identification with a signature or have their request notarized.</p>
Marriage	\$13.00	Same as Birth or Death	<p>The state office has records since May 1947. Earlier records are with the County Recorder in the county where the license was issued. Records at the state office are legally confidential for 50 years.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Idaho Vital Records. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (208) 334-5988. This is a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov.</p> <p>Applicants must provide a clear and readable copy of both sides of their current driver's license or other current government issued identification with signature. If this is not available, the applicant must either provide a clear and readable copy of both sides of two other forms of current identification with a signature or have their request notarized.</p>
	Computer generated		
	\$18.00		
	Photostatic copy		
	Varies	See remarks	County Recorder in county where license was

Divorce (Computer generated)	\$13.00	Same as Birth or Death
(Photostatic copy)	\$18.00	

issued.

The state office has records since May 1947. Only a Certificate of Divorce is available from 1950 to present. Records prior to May 1947 are with the Clerk of the Court in the county where the divorce was granted. Records at the state office are legally confidential for 50 years.

Personal check or money order should be made payable to **Idaho Vital Records**. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (208) 334-5988. This is a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at

<http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov>.

Applicants must provide a clear and readable copy of both sides of their current driver's license or other current government issued identification with signature. If this is not available, the applicant must either provide a clear and readable copy of both sides of two other forms of current identification with a signature or have their request notarized

Varies	See remarks
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A full certified copy of the divorce decree is available from the Clerk of the Court in the county where the divorce was granted.

Illinois

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$15.00 certified copy \$10.00 certification	Division of Vital Records Illinois Department of Public Health 925 E Ridgely Avenue Springfield, IL 62702	State office has records since January 1916. For earlier records and for copies of State records since January 1916, write to County Clerk in county where event occurred (county fees vary). Genealogical (uncertified) copies are available from the State for death records 20 years or older for \$10.00. Additional genealogical copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$2.00 each. The fee for a full certified copy is \$17.00. Additional certified copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$2.00 each.
Death	\$17.00 certified copy \$10.00 genealogical copy		Personal check or money orders should be made payable to Illinois Department of Public Health . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (217) 782-6553. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.idph.state.il.us .
Marriage	\$5.00	Same as Birth or Death	Marriage Index since January 1962. Selected items may be verified (fee \$5.00). Certified copies are NOT available from State office. For certified copies, write to the County Clerk in county where license was issued.
Divorce	\$5.00	Same as Birth or Death	Divorce Index since January 1962. Selected items may be verified (fee \$5.00). Certified copies are NOT available from State office. For certified copies, write to the Clerk of Circuit Court in county where divorce was granted.

Indiana

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth Death	\$10.00 \$8.00	Vital Records Indiana State Department of Health P.O. Box 7125 Indianapolis, IN 46206-7125	State office has birth since October 1907 and death records since January 1900. Additional copies of the same birth or death record ordered at the same time are \$4.00 each. For earlier records, write to Health Officer in city or county where event occurred. Personal check or money order should be made payable to Indiana State Department of Health . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (317) 233-2700. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.in.gov/isdh/index.htm . Applicant must provide a photocopy of a valid identification with picture and signature along with the application.
Marriage	See remarks	Same as Birth or Death	Index for marriages since 1958. Certified copies are available from County Clerk of Court or Clerk of Superior Court in the county where event occurred.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Circuit Court or Clerk of Superior Court in county where license was issued.
Divorce	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where divorce was granted.

Iowa

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$15.00	Iowa Department of Public Health Bureau of Vital Records Lucas Office Building 1 st Floor 321 East 12th Street Des Moines, IA 50319-0075	State office has records since July 1880. Personal check or money order should be made payable to Iowa Department of Public Health . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (515) 281-4944. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.idph.state.ia.us/ . Applicants for all records must provide a photo identification when applying in person. Written applications must include a clear photo copy of a current government issued ID and applicant's notarized signature.
Marriage	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	State office has records since July 1880.
Divorce	See remarks	Same as Birth or Death	Brief statistical record only since 1906. Inquiries will be forwarded to appropriate office. Certified copies are not available from State Health Department.
	\$6.00	See remarks	Clerk of District Court in county where divorce was granted.

Kansas

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$15.00	Office of Vital Statistics	State office has records since July 1911. For earlier records, write to County Clerk in county where event occurred. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$15.00 each.
Death	\$15.00	Curtis State Office Building 1000 SW Jackson Street Suite 120 Topeka, Kansas 66612-2221	
			<p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Vital Statistics. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (785) 296-1400. This will be a recorded message with the option to speak with a Customer Service Representative. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.kdheks.gov/vital.</p> <p>The applicant MUST include a copy of a photo ID and a handwritten signature with the request.</p>
Marriage	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	State office has records since May 1913. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$7.00 each.
	Varies	See remarks	Write to: District Judge in county where license was issued.
Divorce	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	State office has records since July 1951. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$7.00 each.
	Varies	See remarks	Write to: Clerk of District Court in county where divorce was granted.

Kentucky

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$10.00	Office of Vital Statistics Department for Public Health Cabinet for Health and Family Services 275 East Main Street 1E-A Frankfort, KY 40621-0001	State office has records since January 1911.
Death	\$6.00		Personal check or money order should be made payable to Kentucky State Treasurer . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (502) 564-4212. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://chfs.ky.gov/dph/vital/ .
Stillbirth	\$6.00	Same as Birth or Death	State office has records since January 1911. Personal check or money order should be made payable to Kentucky State Treasurer . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (502) 564-4212. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://chfs.ky.gov/dph/vital/ .
Marriage	\$6.00	Same as Birth and Death	Records since June 1958.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of County Court in county where license was issued.
Divorce	\$6.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since June 1958.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Circuit Court in county where decree was issued.

Louisiana

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth (long form) Birth (short form)	\$15.50 \$9.50	Office of Public Health Vital Records Registry P.O. Box 60630 New Orleans, LA 70160	State office has birth records for 100 years past date of birth and deaths records for 50 years past the date of death. To obtain current information on who may obtain a record, how to submit a request and an official request form, click on at http://www.dhh.louisiana.gov/offices/?ID=252 . Older records are available through the Louisiana State Archives, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804.
Marriage Orleans Parish Only	\$5.50	Same as Birth or Death	To obtain current information on how to submit a request for a certified copy of Orleans Parish marriage record less than 50 years old and a request form, click on http://www.dhh.louisiana.gov/offices/?ID=252 . Certified copies for other parishes are issued by Clerk of Court in the parish where the marriage license was issued. Marriage records over 50 years are stored by the Louisiana State Archives, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804.
Other Parishes	Varies	See remarks	Certified copies are issued by Clerk of Court in the parish where the marriage license was issued.
Divorce All Parishes	Varies	See remarks	Certified copies are issued by Clerk of Court in the parish where the divorce was granted.

Maine

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	Certified \$15.00 Non-Certified \$10.00	Vital Records Maine Department of Health Human Services 244 Water Street #11 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0011	State office has records since 1923. Records for 1892-1922 are available at the Maine State Archives (207) 287-5795. For earlier records, write to the municipality where the event occurred. Additional copies of same record ordered at same time are \$6.00 each. Personal check or money order should be made payable to Treasurer, State of Maine . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (207) 287-3181. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.state.me.us .
Marriage	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	Same as Birth or Death.
Divorce	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	Same as Birth or Death.
Divorce	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of District Court in judicial division where divorce was granted.

Maryland

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$12.00	Division of Vital Records Department of Health and Mental Hygiene 6550 Reisterstown Road P.O. Box 68760 Baltimore, MD 21215-0020	<p>State office has records since August 1898. Records for City of Baltimore are available from January 1875. Fee for Commemorative Birth Certificate is \$30.00.</p> <p>For genealogical studies, you must apply through the Maryland State Archives, 350 Rowe Blvd., Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 260-6400.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Division of Vital Records. To verify current fees, the telephone number to contact is (410) 764-3038. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.vsa.state.md.us</p>
Marriage (State, county)	\$12.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since January 1990. Clerk of Circuit Court in county where license was issued or Clerk of Court of Common Pleas of Baltimore City (for licenses issued in City of Baltimore).
Divorce (State, county) Verification only	12.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since January 1992. Certified divorce decrees may be obtained through the Clerk of Circuit Court in the city/county where the divorce was granted. Some items may be verified.

Massachusetts

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$18.00 (In person) \$28.00 (Mail request) \$3.00 (State Archives)	Registry of Vital Records and Statistics 150 Mount Vernon Street 1 st Floor Dorchester, MA 02125-3105	<p>State office has no records previous to 1916. For earlier records, write to The Massachusetts Archives at Columbia Point, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125 (617) 727-2816.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Commonwealth of Massachusetts. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (617) 740-2600. This will be a recorded message.</p> <p>Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.state.ma.us/dph/bhsre/rvr/vrcopies.htm</p>
Marriage	Same as Birth or Death	Same as Birth or Death	Records since 1916.
Divorce	No Fee	Same as Birth or Death	Index only since 1952. Inquirer will be directed where to send request. Certified copies are not available from State office.
Divorce	Varies	See remarks	Registrar of Probate Court in county where divorce was granted.

Michigan

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$26.00	Vital Records Request P.O. Box 30721 Lansing, MI 48909	<p>State office has records of births and deaths that occurred and were filed with the state since 1867. Some of the records (especially pre-1906 births and pre-1897 deaths) were not filed with the state.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to State of Michigan. Fees are \$26.00 for the search and first certified copy of any birth, death, marriage, divorce or Affidavit of Parentage. Exception is Senior Citizen (\$7.00) requesting their own birth record. Additional copies of any record are \$12.00 each. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (517) 335-8656. This will be a recorded message. To speak to a customer service representative, the telephone number is (517) 335-8666. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.michigan.gov/mdch.</p> <p>Michigan birth records are restricted documents and are available only to eligible individuals. A photocopy of an eligible individual's photo identification (state driver's license, state personal ID card, Military ID, etc.) is required to be sent in, along with the application and appropriate fee.</p> <p>Copies of records may also be obtained from the County Clerk in county where event occurred. Fees vary from county to county. Records of Detroit births occurring since 1893 and deaths since 1897 may be obtained from the city of Detroit Health Department.</p>
Marriage	\$26.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since 1867. Some marriages (especially pre-1926) were not filed with the state.
	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where license was issued.
Divorce	\$26.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since 1897. Some divorces (especially pre-1924) were not filed with the state.
	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where divorce was granted.

Minnesota

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$26.00	Office of the State Registrar MN Department of Health P.O. Box 64882 St. Paul, MN 55164	Office of the State Registrar has birth records on file from January 1900 to current and death records on file from January 1908 to current. Copies of earlier records may be obtained from Local Registrar in county where event occurred.
Death	\$13.00		
			Personal check or money order should be made payable to Minnesota Department of Health . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (651) 201-5970. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.health.state.mn.us .
Marriage	See remarks		Marriage records are not recorded at the state level.
	\$9.00	See remarks	Local Registrar in county where license was issued. Additional copies of the marriage record when ordered at the same time are \$2.00 each.
Divorce	See remarks		Divorce records are not recorded at the state level.
	\$10.00	See remarks	Court Administrator in county where divorce was granted.

Mississippi

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth and Death	\$15..00	Mississippi Vital Records State Department of Health P.O. Box 1700 Jackson, MS 39215-1700	<p>State office has records since November 1, 1912. Additional copies of same record ordered at the same time are \$5.00 each. Personal check , bank or postal money order or bank cashier's check are accepted and should be made payable to Mississippi State Department of Health.</p> <p>A copy of a valid photo ID for the applicant is required.</p> <p>To verify current fees, the telephone number is (601) 576-7981. A recorded message may be reached on (601) 576-7450. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.msdh.state.ms.us.</p>
Marriage	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	<p>Statistical records only from January 1, 1926 to July 1, 1938, and since January 1942.</p> <p>Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$5.00.</p>
Marriage (County)	Varies	See remarks	Circuit Clerk in county where license was issued.
Divorce	See remarks	Same as Birth or Death	Records since January 1926. Certified copies are not available from State office. Index search only available at \$15.00 for each 5-year increment. Book and page number for county record provided.
Divorce	Varies	See remarks	Chancery Clerk in county where divorce was granted.

Missouri

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth Death	\$15.00 \$13.00	Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Bureau of Vital Records 930 Wildwood P.O. Box 570 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0570	<p>State office has records since January 1910. Certified copies of most Missouri birth and death records are also available from local county health department or the St. Louis City or Kansas City Health Departments. For details, please contact these offices directly. If event occurred in St. Louis (City), St. Louis County, or Kansas City before 1910, write to the City or County Health Department. Copies of these records are \$13.00 each.</p> <p>Additional copies of the same death record ordered at the same time are \$10.00 each.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Please include a legal size self-addressed stamped envelope. To verify current fees on birth and death records, the telephone number is (573) 751-6387. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.dhss.mo.gov.</p>
Marriage	Varies	See remarks	Recorder of Deeds in county where license was issued.
Divorce	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Circuit Court in county where divorce was granted.

Montana

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$12.00	Office of Vital Statistics MT Dept of Public Health and Human Services 111 N Sanders, Rm. 209 P.O. Box 4210 Helena, MT 59604	<p>State office has records since late 1907. Additional copies of the same record requested at the same time are \$5.00.</p> <p>Photocopy of picture ID and signature required.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Montana Vital Records. To verify current fees, the telephone number is 1-(888) 877-1946. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.dphhs.state.mt.us.</p>
Marriage	See remarks	Same as Birth or Death	Indexes to locate marriage license since July 1943. Certified copies are not available from State Office. Fee for search and verification of essential facts of marriage is \$10.00. Apply to Clerk of District Court where marriage license was purchased if known.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of District Court in county where marriage license was purchased.
Divorce	See remarks	Same as Birth or Death	Indexes to locate divorce decrees since July 1943. Certified copies are not available from State Office. Fee for search and verification of essential facts of divorce is \$10.00. Apply to Clerk of District Court where divorce was granted if known.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of District Court in county where divorce was granted.

Nebraska

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$12.00	Vital Records	State office has records since late 1904. If birth or death occurred before then, write the State office for information.
Death	\$11.00	1033 O Street, Suite 130 P.O. Box 95065 Lincoln, NE 68509-5065	
			Personal check or money order should be made payable to Vital Records . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (402) 471-2871. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.hhss.ne.gov/vitalrecords
			All requests must include a photocopy of the requestor's valid government issued photo identification.
Marriage	\$11.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since January 1909.
	Varies	See remarks	County Court in county where license was issued.
Divorce	\$11.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since January 1909.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of District Court in county where divorce was granted.

Nevada

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth Death	\$13.00 \$10.00	Office of Vital Records and Statistics Capitol Complex 410 Technology Way Suite 104 Carson City, NV 89706	State office has records since July 1911. For earlier records, write to County Recorder in county where event occurred. Personal check or money order should be made payable to Office of Vital Records and Statistics . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (775) 684-4280. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://health.nv.gov/VS.htm . The applicant MUST include a copy of a photo ID with the request.
Marriage	See remarks Varies	Same as Birth or Death See remarks	Indexes since January 1968. Certified copies are not available from State Health Department. Inquiries will be forwarded to appropriate office. County Recorder in county where license was issued.
Divorce	See remarks Varies	Same as Birth or Death See remarks	Indexes since January 1968. Certified copies are not available from State Health Department. Inquiries will be forwarded to appropriate office. County Clerk in county where divorce was granted.

New Hampshire

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$15.00	Division of Vital Records Administration Archives Building 71 South Fruit Street Concord, NH 03301-2410	<p>State office has records since 1640. Copies of records may be obtained from State office or from City or Town Clerk in place where event occurred or the license was registered. Recent records (birth since 1988, death since 1990, and marriage since 1989) may be obtained from ANY City or Town running the Vital Records Automated software called NHVRIN.</p> <p>Additional copies ordered at the same time are \$10.00 each.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Treasurer, State of New Hampshire. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (603) 271-4654. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.sos.nh.gov/vitalrecords.</p>
Marriage	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since 1808.
	\$15.00	See remarks	Town Clerk in town where license was issued.
Divorce	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since 1808.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Superior Court in the county where divorce was granted.

New Jersey

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth, Death, Marriage, Civil Union or Domestic Partnership (State)	\$25.00	See remarks	<p>The State Bureau of Vital Statistics and Registration maintains records from 1901 to present. For older records, please see information for the State Archives at the bottom of the page.</p> <p>All requests must include a copy of the requestor's valid identification, payment of the appropriate fee and proof of relationship to the individual listed on the vital record, if ordering a certified copy.</p> <p>The State or local Registrar may issue a certified copy of a vital record only to persons who establish themselves as the subject of the vital record, the subject's parent, legal guardian or legal representative, spouse, child, grandchild or sibling, if of legal age, to a State or Federal agency for official purposes, pursuant to court order or under other emergent circumstances as determined by the Commissioner. All other applicants will be issued a Certification that state the document is not for identification or legal purposes.</p> <p>Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$2.00 each.</p> <p>Please visit the New Jersey Vital Statistics website for the most up to date information regarding ordering options and information. The website address is www.state.nj.us/health/vital or call toll-free at 1-866-649-8726.</p>
Birth, Marriage, or Death	\$10.00	New Jersey State Archives 225 West State Street P.O. Box 370 Trenton, NJ 08625-0370	<p>The New Jersey State Archives searches vital records from May 1, 1848 to December 31, 1900 only.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to New Jersey General Treasury. The general information telephone number is (609) 292-6260.</p>
Divorce	\$10.00	Clerk of the Superior Court Superior Court of NJ Public Information Center 171 Jersey Street P.O. Box 967 Trenton, NJ 08625-0967	<p>The fee is for a certified Blue Seal copy. Make check payable to Clerk of the Superior Court.</p>

New Mexico

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth Death	\$10.00 \$5.00	NM Vital Records P.O. Box 26110 Santa Fe, NM 87502	State office has records since 1920 and delayed records since 1880. Personal check or money order should be made payable to NM Vital Records . To verify current fees, the telephone number is 1-866-534-0051. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.VitalRecordsNM.org
Marriage	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where license was issued.
Divorce	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Court where divorce was granted.

New York

(except New York City)

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$30.00	Certification Unit Vital Records Section 2nd Floor 800 North Pearl Street Menands, NY 12204	<p>State office has records since 1881. For records before 1914 in Albany, Buffalo, and Yonkers, or before 1880 in any other city, write to Registrar of Vital Statistics in city where event occurred. For the rest of the State, except New York City, write to State office.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to New York State Department of Health. Payment of mail order copies submitted from foreign countries must be made by a check drawn on a United States bank or by an international money order. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (518) 474-3075. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.health.state.ny.us.</p> <p>For all types of State and local issued copies, the applicant is required to provide government issued photo identification.</p>
Marriage	\$30.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records from 1880 to present.
	\$10.00	See remarks	For records from 1880B1907 and licenses issued in the cities of Albany, Buffalo, or Yonkers, apply to Albany: City Clerk, City Hall, Albany, NY 12207; Buffalo: City Clerk, City Hall, Buffalo, NY 14202; Yonkers: Registrar of Vital Statistics, Health Center Building, Yonkers, NY 10701.
Divorce	\$30.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since January 1963.
	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where divorce was granted.

New York City

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$15.00	Office of Vital Records NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene 125 Worth St., CN4, Rm. 133 New York, NY 10013-4090	Office has birth records since 1910 and death records since 1949 for those occurring in the boroughs of Manhattan, Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens, and Staten Island. For birth records prior to 1910 and death records prior to 1949, write to Archives Division, Department of Records and Information Services, 31 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007. You may also visit their website at http://www.nyc.gov/html/records/html/vitalrecords/home.shtml . There are strict identification requirements and several methods for ordering records. For information on how to obtain a birth record including applications for copies and corrections go to http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/vr/vrbappl.shtml . For death record information and applications go to http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/vr/vrdappl.shtml . A 24-hour automated telephone system is also available that provides detailed information. The number is (212) 788-4520.
Marriage Manhattan Borough	\$10.00	City Clerk's Office Centre Street Room 252 South Municipal Building New York, NY 1007	Marriage Record Requests in Person: Marriage records from 1996 to present can be obtained in person from any office of the New York City Clerk. Marriage records from 1930 to 1955 can be obtained solely in the Manhattan Office. For additional information go to http://nycmarriagebureau.com/MarriageBureau/index.htm?RecordRoom.htm .
Bronx Borough	\$10.00	City Clerk's Office 1780 Grand Concourse Bronx, NY 10457	
Brooklyn Borough	\$10.00	City Clerk's Office Municipal Building New York, NY 10007	Marriage Record Requests by Mail: To obtain a Marriage Record by mail, please call the main office at (212) 669-8090 to request a form or to download the Marriage Record mail request form go to http://nycmarriagebureau.com/MarriageBureau/MailRequestForm.htm
Queens Borough	\$10.00	City Clerk's Office 120-55 Queens Boulevard Kew Gardens, NY 11424	
Staten Island Borough	\$10.00	City Clerk's Office Staten Island Borough Hall	Please mail all Marriage Record Requests to the

(no longer called
Richmond)

Staten Island, NY 10301

following address:

Office of the City Clerk
Municipal Building
1 Centre Street, Room 252 South
New York, New York 10007

Divorce

Go to the New York State page on this website at
[http://www/cdc/gov/nchs/howto/w2w/
newyork.htm](http://www/cdc/gov/nchs/howto/w2w/newyork.htm).

North Carolina

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$24.00	NC Vital Records 1903 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1903	<p>The Register of Deeds in the county where the birth or death occurred can provide copies of birth and death certificates upon request.</p> <p>State office has birth records since October 1913 and death records since January 1, 1930.</p> <p>Business or certified check, or money order should be made payable to NC Vital Records. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (919) 733-3000. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.vitalrecords.nc.gov</p>
Marriage (County)	\$24.00	Addresses for NC Register of Deeds Offices	For records after 1962, contact either the Register of Deeds in county where marriage license was obtained or the NC State Office of Vital Records in Raleigh. For records before 1962, contact the Registrar of Deeds.
Divorce	\$24.00	Same as Birth or Death	For records after January 1958, contact either the Register of Deeds in county where divorce was obtained or the NC State Office of Vital Records in Raleigh. For records before 1958, contact county Register of Deeds

North Dakota

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth Death	\$7.00 \$5.00	ND Dept. of Health Division of Vital Records 600 East Boulevard Avenue Dept. 301 Bismarck, ND 58505-0200	State office has some birth records since 1870 and some death records since July 1893. Birth years from 1870 to 1920 are incomplete. Death years from 1894 to 1920 are incomplete. Additional copies of birth records are \$4.00 each and death records are \$2.00 each. Copies are generally processed in 5-7 working days after request is received. Personal check or money order should be made payable to ND Department of Health . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (701) 328-2360. This is an automated attendant with a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.ndhealth.gov/vital/birth.htm . Any person making a request must submit a legible photocopy of a current driver's license or photo ID when making a request.
Marriage	Varies	The following link provides county contact information regarding certified copies of marriage records: http://www.ndhealth.gov/vital/marriage.htm	As of January 1, 2008, the ND Department of Health no longer issues certified copies of marriage records.
Divorce	Varies	The following link provides county contact information regarding certified copies of marriage records: http://www.ndhealth.gov/vital/divorce.htm	Certified copies are not available from the ND Department of Health.

Northern Mariana Islands

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$20.00	Vital Statistics Office	Office has records for birth and death since 1946.
Death	\$15.00	Division of Public Health P.O. Box 500409 Saipan, MP 96950	Years for death from 1946 to 1950 are incomplete. Money order or bank cashiers check should be made payable to CNMI Treasurer . To verify current fees, call (670) 236-8717-8 or fax (670) 236-8700. E-mail address is dphstat1@pticom.com .
Marriage	\$10.00	Same as Birth or Death	Money order or bank cashiers check should be made payable to CNMI Treasurer . To verify current fees, call (670) 236-8717-8 or fax (670) 236-8700. E-mail address is dphstat1@pticom.com .
Divorce	\$0.50 per page for Divorce Decree plus \$2.50 for certification	Same as Birth or Death	Office has records for divorce since 1960.

Ohio

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$21.50	Vital Statistics Ohio Department of Health 246 North High Street 1st Floor Columbus, OH 43216	<p>State office has birth records since December 20, 1908. For earlier birth and death records, write to the Probate Court in the county where the event occurred. The State Office has death records that occurred from 1954 to the present. Death records that occurred December 20, 1908-December 31, 1954, can be obtained from the Ohio Historical Society, Archives Library Division, 1982 Velma Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211-2497. A searchable index to records from 1913 to 1944 is also available via the Internet at http://www.ohiohistory.org.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Treasury, State of Ohio. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (614) 466-2531. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.odh.ohio.gov/vitalstatistics/vitalstats.aspx.</p>
Marriage	See remarks	Same as Birth or Death	Records since September 1949. All items may be verified. Certified copies are not available from State Health Department. Inquiries will be referred to appropriate office.
Divorce	Varies See remarks	See remarks Same as Birth or Death	Probate Judge in county where license was issued. Records since September 1949. All items may be verified. Certified copies are not available from State Health Department. Inquiries will be forwarded to appropriate office.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Court of Common Pleas in county where divorce was granted.

Oklahoma

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$15.00	Vital Records Service State Department of Health 1000 Northeast 10th Street Oklahoma City, OK 73117	<p>State office has records since October 1908.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Vital Records Service. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (405) 271-4040. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies, eligibility requirements, and a list of acceptable IDs are also available via the Internet at http://vr.health.ok.gov/.</p> <p>A copy of a current legal photo ID from the applicant is required, as well as a completed application and appropriate fees.</p> <p>Commemorative heirloom certificates are also available: cost \$35.00 and includes one (1) certified copy. Detailed description of the heirloom certificate is available at http://vr.health.ok.gov/.</p>
Marriage	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Court in county where license was issued.
Divorce	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Court in county where divorce was granted.

Oregon

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$20.00	Oregon Vital Records P.O. Box 14050 Portland, OR 97293-0050	<p>State vital records office has birth and death records starting from 1903. Oregon State Archives has birth records for the City of Portland from 1864 to 1902 and statewide delayed birth records from 1845 to 1902; City of Portland death records from 1862 to 1902 and statewide death records from 1903 to 1955/</p> <p>Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$15.00 each.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to DHS/Vital Records. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (971) 673-1190. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.ohd.hr.state.or.us.</p> <p>The telephone number for the Oregon State Archives is (503) 373-0701 and the fax number is (503) 373-0953. Information on how to obtain copies is also available via the internet at http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/reference.html.</p>
Heirloom Birth	\$45.00	Same as Birth or Death	Presentation style calligraphy certificate suitable for framing.
Marriage	\$20.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since January 1910.
	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where license was issued. County Clerks also have some records before 1906. Some older county records have been transferred to the Oregon State Archives, 800 Summer Street NE, Salem, OR 97310
Divorce	\$20.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since 1925.
(Certificates Only)	Varies	See remarks	County Circuit Court Clerk in county where divorce was granted. County Clerks also have some records before 1925.

Pennsylvania

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$10.00	Division of Vital Records ATTN: Birth Unit 101 South Mercer Street Room 401 P.O. Box 1528 New Castle, PA 16103	State office has records since January 1906. All requests must be submitted on an application form, which requires the signature of the individual requesting the certificate and a legible copy of his/her valid government issued photo ID that verifies name and mailing address of the individual requesting the certificate. Application forms, eligibility requirements, fees, and additional information, including how to apply online or by fax with a credit card are available via the Internet http://www.health.state.pa.us/vitalrecords . The telephone number is (724) 656-3100. This will be a recorded message.
Death	\$9.00	Division of Vital Records ATTN: Death Unit 101 South Mercer Street Room 401 P.O. Box 1528 New Castle, PA 16103	Pennsylvania birth or death certificates prior to 1906 can be accessed through the courthouse in the county where the person was born or died. A list of court houses is available via the Internet at http://www.health.state.pa.us/vitalrecords .
Marriage	Varies		Make application to the Marriage License Clerks, County Court House, in county where license was issued. A list of court houses is available via the Internet at http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/marriage_and_divorce_certificates/14126 .
Divorce	Varies		Make application to the Prothonotary, Court House, in county seat of county where divorce was granted. A list of court houses is available via the Internet at http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/marriage_and_divorce_certificates/14126 .

Puerto Rico

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$5.00	Department of Health Demographic Registry P.O. Box 11854 Fernández Juncos Station San Juan, PR 00910	Central office has records since June 21, 1931. Copies of earlier records may be obtained by writing to local Registrar (Registrador Demografico) in municipality where event occurred. Additional copies ordered at the same time by the same person are \$4.00 each. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.prfaa.com/services.asp?id=44 . Money order should be made payable to Secretary of the Treasury . Personal checks are not accepted. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (787) 767-9120.
Marriage	\$5.00	Same as Birth or Death	All applications must be accompanied by a photocopy of a recent, valid IDENTIFICATION OF APPLICANT.
Divorce	\$2.00	Same as Birth or Death See remarks	 Superior Court where divorce was granted.

Rhode Island

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$20.00	RI Department of Health Office of Vital Records Room 101 3 Capitol Hill Providence, RI 02908-5097	<p>State office keeps birth and marriage records for 100 years and keeps death records for 50 years. In general, copies can be obtained from the State office, the city/town clerk where the event occurred or the city of residence at the time of the occurrence. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$15.00 each.</p> <p>Information for city/town addresses are available via the Internet at: http://www.health.ri.gov/chic/vital/clerks.php.</p> <p>For earlier records, write to the city/town clerk where the event occurred or to the Rhode Island State Archives, 337 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Rhode Island General Treasurer. To verify current fees after office hours, the telephone number is (401) 222-2811. To verify current fees and general information during office hours, please call the Health Hot Line at (401) 222-5960. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.health.ri.gov.</p> <p>All requests must be accompanied by a photocopy of the applicant's valid government-issued picture identification, e.g., driver's license.</p>
Marriage	\$20.00	Same as Birth or Death	
Divorce	\$3.00	Clerk of Family Court 1 Dorrance Plaza Providence, RI 02903	

South Carolina

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$12.00	Office of Vital Records SCDHEC 2600 Bull Street Columbia, SC 29201	<p>State office has records since January 1915. City of Charleston births from 1877 and deaths from 1821 are on file at Charleston County Health Department. Ledger entries of Florence City births and deaths from 1895 to 1914 are on file at Florence County Health Department. Ledger entries of Newberry City births and deaths from the late 1800's are on file at Newberry County Health Department. These are the only early records obtainable. Additional copies of the same birth records ordered at the same time of certification are \$3.00.</p> <p>Anyone requesting a vital record must submit a photocopy of their valid identification.</p> <p>Acceptable method of payment is a money order or cashier's check made payable to SCDHEC. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (803) 898-3630. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.scdhec.net/vr.</p>
Marriage	\$12.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since July 1950.
	Varies	See remarks	Records prior to July 1950. Probate Judge in county where license was issued.
Divorce	\$12.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since July 1962.
	Varies	See remarks	Records since April 1949. Clerk of Court in county where petition was filed.

South Dakota

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$15.00	Vital Records State Department of Health 207 E Missouri Ave, Ste 1-A Pierre, SD 57501	<p>State office has records filed after July 1905.</p> <p>Anyone requesting a vital record must submit a photocopy of their identification.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to South Dakota Department of Health. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (605) 773-4961. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://vitalrecords.sd.gov.</p>
Marriage	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since July 1905. Marriages can also be obtained from the County Register of Deeds where the marriage occurred.
Divorce	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since July 1905. Divorces can also be obtained from the Clerk of Courts in the county where the divorce was granted.

Tennessee

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth (long form)	\$15.00	Tennessee Vital Records	<p>State office has birth records for entire State since January 1914, for Nashville since June 1881, for Knoxville since July 1881, and for Chattanooga since January 1882. Birth enumeration records by school district are available for July 1908 through June 1912. Birth records more than 100 years old are maintained by Tennessee Library and Archives, Archives Division, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312. Additional copies of the same birth, marriage, or divorce record, requested at the same time, are \$5.00 each.</p> <p>If the birth has been amended by adding the father with a Voluntary Acknowledgement Of Paternity (VAOP), a certified copy of the VAOP may be ordered if a \$15 long form birth certificate is ordered at the same time. The cost of the certified VAOP is an additional \$5.00.</p> <p>Vital Records office keeps death records for 50 years; older records are maintained by Tennessee Library and Archives, Archives Division, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312.</p> <p>A photocopy of a government issued form of identification which includes the requestor's signature, must accompany the request.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to Tennessee Vital Records. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (615) 741-1763. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://health.state.tn.us/vr/.</p>
Birth (short form)	\$8.00	1 st Floor	
Death	\$7.00	Central Services Building 4215th Avenue, North Nashville, TN 37243	
Marriage	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	Vital Records Office keeps marriage records for 50 years. Older records are maintained by Tennessee Library and Archives, Archives Division, Nashville, TN 37243-0312.
	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where license was issued.
Divorce	\$15.00	Same as Birth or Death	Vital Records Office keeps divorce records for 50 years. Older records are maintained by Tennessee Library and Archives, Archives Division, Nashville, TN 37243-0312.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Court in county where divorce was granted.

Texas

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$22.00	Vital Statistics Unit	State office has birth and death records since 1903. Additional copies of the birth record ordered at same time are \$22.00 each. Additional copies of the death record ordered at the same time are \$3.00 each.
Death	\$20.00	Texas Department of Health P.O. Box 12040 Austin, TX 78711-2040	
			Request for certified copies can be made via the internet, with a credit card, through Texas.gov. An Expedited Application for Birth and Death Record can also be completed and sent by an overnight service or by USPS Express Mail, with a check or money order, to the address on the application. Texas .gov and Expedited mail requests will be processed within 10 to 15 business days.
			Mail-in requests must be made by personal check or money order made payable to Vital Statistics Unit . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (512) 458-7111. This is a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/vs .
Marriage	See remarks		Records since January 1966. Certified copies are not available from State office. Fee for search and verification of essential facts of marriage is \$20.00 each.
			Request for marriage verification can be made via the internet, with a credit card, through Texas.gov.
			Marriage verification requests may also be sent via mail and paid with a check or money order by completing the Mail Application for Marriage and Divorce Verification (http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/vs/reqproc/forms/vs142.9.doc). Personal checks or money orders should be made payable to Vital Statistics Unit .
	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where license was issued. Texas County contact information can be found at the Texas Department of State Health Services website.
Divorce	See remarks		Records since January 1968. Certified copies are not available from State office. Fee for search and verification of essential facts of divorce is \$20.00 each.

Request for divorce verification can be made via the internet, with a credit card, through Texas.gov.

Divorce verification requests may also be sent via mail and paid with a check or money order by completing the Mail Application for Marriage and Divorce Verification (<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/vs/reqproc/forms/vs142.9.doc>). Personal checks or money orders should be made payable to **Vital Statistics Unit**.

Varies

See remarks

Clerk of District Court in county where divorce was granted. Texas District Clerk contact information can be found at <http://localoffices.texasvsu.org>.

Utah

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$18.00	Office of Vital Records and Statistics Utah Department of Health 288 North 1460 West P.O. Box 141012 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-1012	State office has records since 1905. Identification is now required for the purchase of a Utah Birth Certificate. Mailed request must include an enlarged and easily identifiable photocopy of the back and front of your identification. If no proofs are enclosed, your application will be returned. For a list of acceptable identification see our website at http://www.health.utah.gov/vitalrecords . Additional copies, when requested at the same time, are \$8.00 each.
Death	\$16.00		
Marriage	\$16.00	Same as Birth or Death	State office has records since 1978. Only short form certified copies are available.
	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where license was issued.
Divorce	\$16.00	Same as Birth or Death	State office has records since 1978. Only short form certified copies are available.
	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where divorce was granted.

Vermont

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$10.00	VT Department of Health Vital Records Section P. O. Box 70 108 Cherry Street Burlington, VT 05402-0070	State office has records for the most recent five years. Personal check or money order should be made payable to Vermont Department of Health . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (802) 863-7275. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.healthvermont.gov/research/records/obtain_record.aspx .
Birth, Death, Marriage or Divorce	\$10.00	VT State Archives and Records Administration Office of the Secretary 1078 US Route 2, Middlesex Montpelier, VT 05633-7701	Records more than five years old (as early as 1909). Personal check or money order should be made payable to Vermont Secretary of State . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (802) 828-3286. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://vermont-archives.org/certifications/ .
	\$10.00	See remarks	Town or City Clerk of town/city where birth or death occurred.
Marriage	\$10.00	Same as Birth or Death	State office has records for the most recent 5 years.
	\$10.00	See remarks	Town or City Clerk in town/city where license was issued.
Divorce	\$10.00	Same as Birth or Death	State office has records for the most recent 5 years.
	\$10.00	See remarks	Family court in county where divorce was granted.

Virginia

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$12.00	Division of Vital Records P.O. Box 1000 Richmond, VA 23218-1000	<p>State office has records from January 1853 to December 1896 and since June 14, 1912. Only the cities of Hampton, Newport News and Norfolk have records between 1896 and June 14, 1912.</p> <p>Personal check or money order should be made payable to State Health Department. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (804) 662-6200. This is a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/.</p> <p>Anyone requesting a vital record must submit a photocopy of their identification.</p>
Marriage	\$12.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since January 1853.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Court in county or city where license was issued.
Divorce	\$12.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since January 1918.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Court in county or city where divorce was granted.

Virgin Islands

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death St. Croix	\$15.00 (Mail request) \$12.00 (In person)	Department of Health Vital Statistics Charles Harwood Memorial Hospital St. Croix, VI 00820	Registrar has birth and death records on file since 1840.
St. Thomas and St. John	\$15.00 (Mail request) \$12.00 (In person)	Department of Health Vital Statistics Knud Hansen Complex St. Thomas, VI 00802	Registrar has birth records on file since July 1906 and death records since January 1906. Money order for birth and death records should be made payable to Department of Health . Personal checks are not accepted. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (340) 774-9000 ext. 4685 or 4686.
Marriage	See remarks	Bureau of Vital Records and Statistical Services Virgin Islands Department of Health Charlotte Amalie St. Thomas, VI 00801	Certified copies are not available. Inquiries will be forwarded to the appropriate office.
St. Croix	\$2.00	Chief Deputy Clerk Family Division Territorial Court of the Virgin Islands P.O. Box 929 Christiansted St. Croix, VI 00820	
St. Thomas and St. John	\$2.00	Clerk of the Territorial Court of the Virgin Islands Family Division P.O. Box 70 Charlotte Amalie St. Croix, VI 00801	
Divorce	See remarks	Same as Marriage	Certified copies are not available. Inquiries will be forwarded to appropriate office.
St. Croix	\$5.00	Same as Marriage	Money order for marriage and divorce records should be made payable to Territorial Court of the Virgin Islands. Personal checks are not accepted.
St. Thomas and St. John	\$5.00	Same as Marriage	

Washington

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$20.00	Department of Health Center for Health Statistics P.O. Box 47814 Olympia, WA 98504-7814	Must have exact information for births. State office has records since July 1907. For King, Pierce, and Spokane counties copies may also be obtained from county health departments. County Auditor of county of birth has registered births prior to July 1907. Personal check or money order should be made payable to Department of Health . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (360) 236-4300. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.doh.wa.gov .
Marriage	\$20.00	Same as Birth or Death	State office has records since January 1968.
	Varies	See remarks	County Auditor in county where license was issued.
Divorce	\$20.00	Same as Birth or Death	State office has records since January 1968.
	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where divorce was granted.

West Virginia

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth or Death	\$12.00	Vital Registration Office Room 165 350 Capitol Street Charleston, WV 25301-3701	State office has records since January 1917. For earlier records, write to Clerk of County Court in county where event occurred. Personal check or money order should be made payable to Vital Registration . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (304) 558-2931. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.wvdhhr.org .
Marriage	\$12.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since 1921. Certified copies available from 1964.
	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where license was issued.
Divorce	See remarks	Same as Birth or Death	Index since 1968. Some items may be verified (fee \$5.00). Certified copies are not available from State office.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of Circuit Court, Chancery Side, in county where divorce was granted.

Wisconsin

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth Death	\$20.00 \$20.00	WI Vital Records Office 1 West Wilson Street P.O. Box 309 Madison, WI 53701-0309	State Office has scattered records earlier than 1857. Records before October 1, 1907, are very incomplete. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$3.00 each. Personal check or money order should be made payable to State of Wisconsin Vital Records . A stamped, self-addressed business size (#10) envelope should be included with the request. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (608) 266-1371. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://www.dhfs.state.wi.us/vitalrecords .
Marriage	\$20.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since April 1836. Records before October 1, 1907, are very incomplete and cannot be searched without a county of marriage. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$3.00 each.
Divorce	\$20.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since October 1907. Additional copies of the same record ordered at the same time are \$3.00 each.

Wyoming

Place of event	Cost of copy	Address	Remarks
Birth	\$13.00	Vital Statistics Services	State office has records since July 1909.
Death	\$10.00	Hathaway Building Cheyenne, WY 82002	Death certificates more than 50 years old should be obtained from the Wyoming State Archives at (307) 777-7826 or WyArchive@state.wy.us . Personal check or money order should be made payable to Vital Records Services . To verify current fees, the telephone number is (307) 777-7591. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at http://wdh.state.wy.us/vital_records .
Marriage	\$13.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since May 1941.
	Varies	See remarks	County Clerk in county where license was issued.
Divorce	\$13.00	Same as Birth or Death	Records since May 1941.
	Varies	See remarks	Clerk of District Court where divorce took place.

Foreign, high-seas, or Panama Canal Zone births and deaths and certificates of citizenship

Birth records of persons born in foreign countries who are U.S. citizens at birth

The birth of a child abroad to U.S. citizen parent(s) should be reported to the nearest U.S. Consulate or Embassy as soon after the birth as possible. To do this, the child's parent or legal guardian should file an Application for Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States of America (Form FS-240). This form may also be used to apply for a Social Security Number for the child. A \$65.00 fee is charged for reporting the birth.

The application must be supported by evidence to establish the child's U.S. citizenship. Usually, the following documents are needed:

1. the child's foreign birth certificate;
2. evidence of the U.S. citizenship of the parent(s) such as a certified copy of a birth certificate, U.S. passport, or Certificate of Naturalization or Citizenship;
3. evidence of the parents' marriage, if applicable; and
4. affidavit(s) of the physical presence of the parent(s) in the United States.

Each document should be certified as a true copy of the original by the registrar of the office that issued the document. Other documents may be needed in some cases. Contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate for details on what evidence is needed.

When the application is approved, a Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States of America (Form FS-240) is given to the applicant. This document, known as the Consular Report of Birth, has the same value as proof of citizenship as the Certificate of Citizenship issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

A Consular Report of Birth can be prepared only at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate overseas, and only if the person who is the subject of the report is under 18 years of age when the

application is made. A person residing abroad who is now 18 years of age or over, and whose claim to U.S. citizenship has never been documented, should contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate for assistance in registering as a U.S. citizen.

As of November 1, 1990, the U.S. Department of State no longer issues multiple copies of the Consular Report of Birth. However, a replacement Consular Report of Birth may be issued if the original document is lost or mutilated. The U.S. Department of State also issues certified copies of the Certification of Report of Birth (DS-1350), which contains the same information as on the Consular Report of Birth. The DS-1350 serves most needs and can be issued in multiple copies. Documents are issued only to the subject of the Consular Report of Birth, the subject's parents or legal guardian. Effective September 1, 2003, all requests must be notarized to include a picture ID.

To request copies of the DS-1350 or a replacement FS-240, write to Passport Services, Vital Records Section, U.S. Department of State, 1111 19th Street NW, Suite 510, Washington, DC 20522-1705. Please include the following items:

1. the full name of the child at birth (and any adoptive name);
2. the date and place of birth;
3. the names of the parents;
4. the serial number of the FS-240 (if the FS-240 was issued after November 1, 1990);
5. any available passport information;
6. the signature of the requestor and the requestor's relationship to the subject;
7. a check or money order for \$30.00 for the FS-240, \$30.00 for the first DS-1350 and \$20.00 for each additional issued at the same time per document requested, made payable to the U.S. Department of State. Remittance must be payable in U.S. dollars through a U.S. Bank. Do Not Send Cash;
8. if applying for a replacement FS-240, a notarized affidavit by the subject, parent, or legal representative that states the name, date and place of birth of the subject, and the whereabouts of the original FS-240.

To obtain a Consular Report of Birth in a new name, send a written request and fees as noted above, the original (or replacement) Consular Report of Birth, or if not available, a

notarized affidavit about its whereabouts. Also, send a certified copy of the court order or final adoption decree which identifies the child and shows the change of name with the request. If the name has been changed informally, submit public records and affidavits that show the change of name.

Birth records of alien children adopted by U.S. citizens

Birth certifications for alien children adopted by U.S. citizens and lawfully admitted to the United States may be obtained from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) if the birth information is on file. (Address can be found in a telephone directory.) To obtain the birth data, it is necessary to provide the Immigration Office with proof of adoption or legitimation.

Certificate of citizenship

Persons who were born abroad and later naturalized as U.S. citizens or who were born in a foreign country to a U.S. citizen (parent or parents) may apply for a Certificate of Citizenship pursuant to the provisions of Section 341 of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Application can be made for this document in the United States at the nearest office of the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services in the Department of Homeland Security. Upon approval, a Certification of Citizenship will be issued for the person if proof of citizenship is submitted and the person is within the United States. The decision whether to apply for a Certificate of Citizenship is optional; its possession is not mandatory because a valid U.S. passport or a Form FS-240 has the same evidentiary status.

Death records of U.S. citizens who die in foreign countries

The death of a U.S. citizen in a foreign country may be reported to the nearest U.S. consular office. If reported, and a copy of the local death certificate and evidence of U.S. citizenship are presented, the consul prepares the official *Report of the Death of an American Citizen Abroad* (Form DS-2060, formerly

OF-180). A copy of the Report of Death is then filed permanently in the U.S. Department of State (see exceptions below).

To obtain a copy of a report filed in 1975 or after, write to Passport Services, Vital Records Section, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-1705. The fee for a copy is \$30.00 for the first copy, \$20.00 for each additional copy. Please include a notarized request to include picture ID. Fee may be subject to change.

Reports of Death filed before 1975 are maintained by the National Archives and Records Service, Diplomatic Records Branch, Washington, DC 20408. Requests for such records should be sent directly to that office.

Reports of deaths of persons serving in the Armed Forces of the United States (Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, or Coast Guard) or civilian employees of the Department of Defense are not maintained by the U.S. Department of State. In these cases, requests for copies of records should be sent to the National Personnel Records Center (Military Personnel Records), 9700 Page Ave., St. Louis, Missouri 63132-5100.

Records of birth and death occurring on vessels or aircraft on the high seas

When a birth or death occurs on the high seas, whether in an aircraft or on a vessel, the record is usually filed at the next port of call.

1. If the vessel or aircraft docked or landed at a foreign port, requests for copies of the record may be made to the U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-1705.
2. If the first port of entry was in the United States, write to the registration authority in the city where the vessel or aircraft docked or landed in the United States.
3. If the vessel was of U.S. registry, contact the local authorities at the port of entry and/or search the vessel logs at the U.S. Coast Guard Facility at the vessel's final port of call for that voyage.

Records maintained by foreign Countries

Most, but not all, foreign countries record births and deaths. It is not possible to list in this

publication all foreign vital records offices, the charges they make for copies of records, or the information they may require to locate a record. However, most foreign countries will provide certifications of births and deaths occurring within their boundaries.

Persons who need a copy of a foreign birth or death record should contact the Embassy or the nearest Consulate in the U.S. of the country in which the death occurred. Addresses and telephone numbers for these offices are listed in the U.S. Department of State Publication 7846, *Foreign Consular Offices in the United States*, which is available in many local libraries. Copies of this publication may also be purchased from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

If the Embassy or Consulate is unable to provide assistance, U.S. citizens may obtain assistance by writing to the Office of Overseas Citizens Services, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520-4818. Aliens residing in the United States may be able to obtain assistance through the Embassy or Consulate of their country of nationality.

Records of birth, death, or marriage in the Panama Canal Zone for U.S. citizens and foreign nationals

From 1904 until September 30, 1979, the Canal Zone Government registered all civil acts of birth, death and marriage in the Canal Zone for U.S. citizens and foreign nationals. Since 1979, the Panama Canal Commission has issued certified copies of these documents in response to requests from the public. On December 31, 1999, the Panama Canal Commission will no longer exist. On December 1, 1999, those records were transferred to Passport Services in the U.S. Department of State, which will provide the certification service just as it does for similar records issued by U.S. Embassies and Consulates abroad.

From 1904 until September 30, 1979, the Canal Zone Government registered all civil acts of birth, death and marriage in the Canal Zone for U.S. citizens and foreign nationals. Since 1979, the Panama Canal Commission has issued certified copies of these documents in response to requests from the public. On December 31, 1999, the Panama Canal Commission will no longer exist. On December 1, 1999, those

records were transferred to Passport Services in the U.S. Department of State, which will provide the certification service just as it does for similar records issued by U.S. Embassies and Consulates abroad.

To request copies, write to Vital Records Section, Passport Services, U.S. Department of State, 1111 19th Street NW, Suite 510, Washington, DC 20522-1705. Please include a notarized request to include picture ID the following items for birth, death, or marriage:

1. the full name of subject at the time of event;
2. month, day and year of event;
3. place of event (city and country)
4. parents' names, date and place of birth, and nationality for birth record;
5. any available U.S. passport information;
6. signature of the requestor, parent or guardian, or legal representative;
7. requestor address and telephone number;
8. a check or money order for \$30.00 and \$20.00 for each additional copy issued at the same time, made payable to U.S. Department of State. Remittance must be payable in U.S. dollars through a U.S. bank. Do not send cash.

